

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 HA-05 /079 W
-----000072 070542Z /20

R 070045Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8216
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, AS, YO
SUBJ: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM CROATIAN
INTERCOMMITTEE COUNCIL FOR N.S.W.

REF: 77 SYDNEY 1482

1. A FOUR-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE CROATIAN INTERCOMMITTEE COUNCIL FOR N.S.W. CALLED AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL THIS MORNING AND PRESENTED ME WITH A LETTER ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT CARTER WHICH PROTESTS THE CURRENT VISIT OF PRESIDENT TITO TO WASHINGTON. AFTER REVIEWING TITO'S ALLEGED ATROCITIES DIRECTED AT CROATIANS, THE LETTER STATES:
QUOTE: CROATIAN PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA ARE BITTERLY ANGERED AND GRIEVOUSLY PROTEST AGAINST THIS PROVOCATIVE ACTION ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES AND WISH TO REITERATE THEIR STANDING DEMANDS EXPRESSED IN A LETTER TO YOURSELF DATED THE 1ST OF JULY 1977 (SEE REFTEL). END QUOTE.
THE LETTER GOES ON TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING THREE DEMANDS:
BEGIN QUOTE

"1. THAT ALL POSSIBLE MEANS OF ASSISTANCE FROM UNITED STATES TO YUGOSLAVIA BE CEASED IMMEDIATELY.

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"2. THAT ALL NECESSARY STEPS BE TAKEN TO DISSOLVE YUGOSLAVIA PEACEFULLY, IN ORDER TO AVOID AN UNNECESSARY CONFRONTATION OF CATASTROPHIC PROPORTIONS.

"3. THAT ALL NATIONS INCLUDING THE CROATS, PRESENTLY IMPRISONED WITHIN YUGOSLAVIA, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY

TO ESTABLISH THEIR SOVEREIGN STATES ACCORDING TO THEIR
ETHNIC AND HISTORIC TERRITORIES." END QUOTE. LETTER IS
SIGNED BY I. BUTKOVIC, R. AVDIC, I. JURIC, F. LOVOKOVIC.

2. THE ACTUAL INTERVIEW WITH THE FOUR VISITORS WAS
FAR MORE AMIABLE IN TONE THAN THE LETTER WOULD
INDICATE. THEY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S
CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY AND SAID THAT IT HAD RESULTED IN
THE RELEASE OF SOME CROATIAN ACTIVISTS FROM YUGOSLAV
JAILS BEFORE THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE CONVENED. THE FOUR
VISITORS WERE ADAMANT IN INSISTING THAT THE EVENTUAL
DISSOLUTION OF YUGOSLAVIA WAS INEVITABLE AND IN THE
BEST INTERESTS OF ALL THE NATIONALITIES IN THAT STATE.
WE ASSURED THEM THAT THE SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD WOULD CONTINUE AND
INTENSIFY BUT REFRAINED FROM COMMENTING ON THEIR AMBITIONS
FOR CROATIAN AUTONOMY.

3. COMMENT: THIS GROUP IS WITH ONE EXCEPTION THE SAME
AS THAT WHICH CALLED ON THE CONSULATE GENERAL LAST
YEAR AND SEEMS TO REPRESENT THE MORE RESPONSIBLE
AND NON-VIOLENT ELEMENTS IN THE CROATIAN COMMUNITY.
SO FAR, THERE HAS BEEN NO DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE
CONSULATE. THE FULL TEXT OF THE GROUP'S PETITION
IS BEING FORWARDED TO EA/ANP FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION.
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SYDNEY00511
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780102-0401
Format: TEL
From: SYDNEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780396/aaaaddg.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2de97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SYDNEY 1482
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3411975
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM CROATIAN INTERCOMMITTEE COUNCIL FOR N.S.W.
TAGS: PINS, AS, YO, CROATIAN INTERCOMM CNCL FOR N S W, (TITO, JOSIP BROZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2de97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014